

MAR 27 2008

Applicant: Dick et al.
Application No.: 10/689,485

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

After the foregoing Amendment, claims 1 – 18 are currently pending in this application. Claims 1 – 6 are canceled without prejudice. Claims 7 and 13 are amended.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §101

Claims 1 – 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter.

Claims 1 – 6 have been canceled.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §112

Claim 7 – 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement.

Claims 7 and 13 have been amended to address the Examiner's rejections.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §103

Claims 1, 5 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,549,564 (hereinafter Popovic).

Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Popovic in view of U.S. Patent 6,553,540 (hereinafter Schramm).

Claims 1 – 6 have been canceled, therefore, rendering the §103 rejection moot.

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Conclusion

If the Examiner believes that any additional minor formal matters need to be addressed in order to place this application in condition for allowance, or that a telephonic interview will help to materially advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone at the Examiner's convenience.

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 7 – 18 are in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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